



MONTANA STATE HOSPITAL POLICY AND PROCEDURE

PASTORAL SERVICES

Effective Date: September 11, 2006

Policy #: TX-09

Page 1 of 2

- I. PURPOSE:** To assure spiritual and religious needs of patients are met in accordance with patient rights provisions of the law.
- II. POLICY:**
 - A. Montana State Hospital patients have a right to visitation with spiritual counselors and the right to religious worship. The hospital will provide pastoral services through hospital chaplain services. Patients may also seek to have pastoral services from others of their own choosing. Hospital chaplains may be contacted to help make arrangements as necessary.
 - B. Spiritual beliefs and values may impact treatment and will be evaluated as part of the assessment process. Important religious and spiritual information will be included in the social assessment at the time of admission. This information will be conveyed to the treatment team for use in the treatment planning process.
 - C. Patient participation in pastoral counseling services are voluntary, will be coordinated through the treatment team, and will be documented on the treatment plan.
 - D. Spiritual beliefs must be practiced in a way that is respectful of all persons and does not adversely impact the treatment or clinical condition of others.
- III. DEFINITIONS:** None
- IV. RESPONSIBILITIES:** The clergy are responsible for providing identified services in accordance with this policy.
- V. PROCEDURE:**
 - A. Montana State Hospital Pastoral Services are provided by professional clergy. The Rehabilitation Services Chief will coordinate this service.
 - B. The hospital chaplains will:
 - 1. visit each treatment program regularly,
 - 2. conduct regular scheduled worship services,

Montana State Hospital Policy and Procedure

PASTORAL SERVICES

Page 2 of 2

3. be available for:
 - a) pastoral counseling with patients and families,
 - b) emergency pastoral calls,
 - c) consultation with treatment teams and hospital administration,
 - d) participation on hospital committees.
 4. act as liaisons to church organizations and pastors in the community.
- C. All Pastoral Services provided to patients and families will respect confidentiality. Hospital chaplains may have access to patient medical records.
- D. Hospital chaplains will participate in hospital orientation and appropriate continuing education opportunities.
- E. Direct care staff will inform patients about scheduled worship services and will escort patients who require assistance or supervision in order to attend. Those who are unable to attend scheduled services may request to be visited by chaplains.

VI. REFERENCES: None

VII. COLLABORATED WITH: Medical Director; Director of Rehabilitation Services

VIII. RESCISSIONS: #TX-02, *Pastoral Services* dated March 31, 2003; #TX-09, *Pastoral Services* dated February 14, 2000; H.O.P.P. #13.03R.103077, *Pastoral Services* dated May 20, 1996.

IX. DISTRIBUTION: All hospital policy manuals.

X. REVIEW AND REISSUE DATE: September 2009

XI. FOLLOW-UP RESPONSIBILITY: Hospital Administrator

XII. ATTACHMENTS: None

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Ed Amberg
Hospital Administrator

_____/_____/_____
Thomas Gray, MD
Medical Director